

9/11 remembrance run held in Hawaii

Story and photos by
MC2 Daniel Barker

Navy Public Affairs
Support Element West, Det. Hawaii

U.S. military service members, firefighters and police officers were joined by supporting civilians in a run Sept. 11 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam to honor and remember victims and responders of the 9/11 terrorist attacks 10 years ago.

The Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Run was a five-kilometer run across the Adm. Clarey Bridge to Ford Island and back. The run is named after a New York City firefighter who carried his equipment on foot approximately three miles to the World Trade Center to aid in rescue relief efforts and who died in the towers collapse.

The more than 600 participants in this year's run were cheered on by supporters along the route, including members of the Armed Forces of America Motorcycle Club, Hawaii Chapter.

"This is a very important event," said William



(Left) Members of the Federal Firefighter Department participate in the Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Run along with military members and civilian runners.

Runners and walkers, both military members and civilians, participate in Hawaii's first Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Run.

"Wolfman" Gass, a Patriot Guard Rider and Air Force Vietnam veteran. "You need to honor the service and sacrifice of those who have come before us. We still have people who are in harm's way, and this recognizes those

that are lost and those that are serving."

There were a wide variety of participants, including military members and firefighters wearing gear, a wheelchair entrant, a K-9 unit specialist who ran with

her bomb-sniffing dog, and parents pushing young children in strollers.

The significance of the run was expressed by many of the participants.

"Everybody needs to do their part, whether it's in

the military or organizing events like this," said Chief (Select) Gunners Mate Robert Prine, assigned to the USS Chosin (CG 65), "or something to remember not only the September 11 event, but all the military

personnel who have lost their lives fighting the war on terrorism."

Although the Tunnel to Towers Run is an annual event across the country, this is the first time it has been held in Hawaii.

JBPHH reflects on 9/11 a decade later

Story and photo by
Sr. Airman Lauren Main

15th Wing Public Affairs

The 15th Wing, at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH), commemorated those who lost their lives during the attacks of Sept. 11, 2011, with a Patriot Day Ceremony at Atterbury Circle.

Hawaii Gov. Neil Abercrombie was a guest speaker to more than 1,300 Airmen, Sailors, Soldiers, civic leaders and special guests.

During his speech, Abercrombie said though you never plan to get hit,

you should always remain vigilant. He also spoke of his personal accounts of where he was on Sept. 11, and the emotions that followed when he visited the Pentagon after American Airlines Flight 77 hit the west side of the building.

As part of the ceremony, a KC-135 Stratotanker from the 96 Air Refueling Squadron performed a flyover during the National Anthem.

"The KC-135 flyby you just witnessed was flown by a combined active-duty and Hawaii Air National Guard crew," said Col. Sam Barrett,



Hawaii Gov. Neil Abercrombie addresses Airmen on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii as part of a Sept. 11 remembrance ceremony at Atterbury Circle on Sept. 9.

15th Wing commander, during a speech. "This is a symbol of the partnerships forged and strengthened over the last decade. Despite the enemy's best efforts to weaken our spirit, we remain united."

Brig. Gen. Joseph Kim, deputy adjutant general for the state of Hawaii, also gave a speech thanking military members for their service.

After all the speakers, there was a moment of silence to honor and memorialize the lives lost in the attacks and to pay respect for the price of freedom.

Hickam elementary students march to Freedom Tower

Story and photo by
MCSC Dustin W. Sisco

Navy Public Affairs Support
Element West Det Hawaii

Students from Hickam Elementary School and firefighters from the Federal Fire Department held a march aboard Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) on Sept. 9 to honor and remember the victims and responders of the 9/11/2001 attacks.

More than 600 students marched down the streets adjacent to the lawn in front of the Freedom Tower on JBPHH.

The event began with the Radford High School ROTC parading the colors. Students and guest speakers offered remarks about the event and the importance of remembering 9/11.

"The parade today is to honor those individuals that were lost that fateful day ten years ago, as well as to honor and pay tribute to all of the men and women



Students march down the streets adjacent the lawn in front of Freedom Tower on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam while holding signs in remembrance and to honor the victims and responders of 9/11.

in uniform who, as a result, have fought valiantly to defend our freedom and our American way of life," said John Erickson, principal of Hickam Elementary School.

Among the guest speakers was Air Force Col. Dann

Carlson, deputy commander of JBPHH, who spoke about the pride and strength of the country.

"Our country must maintain her strength now and in the future," Carlson said. "That strength is derived from the

patriotism and service of her citizens."

Before the students began their march, Carlson addressed them about their duty and service to the country.

"Students of Hickam Elementary School, you are the

heart of our country's future, strength and prosperity," Carlson said. "Do not expect the person next to you to pick up that torch and carry it for you. Your country needs you to be the best you can be. It is the key to the success of our future."



USS Chung-Hoon holds 9/11 memorial service at sea
See page A-2



Lake Erie Sailors celebrate Battle of Lake Erie in Put-in-Bay Ohio
See page A-6



15th Medical Group always prepared
See page B-1



Naval Air Museum Barbers Point honors 9/11 heroes, celebrates naval aviation
See page A-3



Installation-wide cleanup will take place on Sept. 22
See page A-7



MDSU-1 crushes Pac-Nasty in gridiron opener
See page B-2

Lake Erie Sailors remember 9/11 at Put-in-Bay

Story and photo by
MC2 (SW) Mark Logico

Navy Region Public Affairs

PUT-IN-BAY, OHIO—Sailors assigned to the missile-guided cruiser USS Lake Erie (CG 70) arrived at Put-in-Bay, Ohio to honor the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attack.

The small group of 10 Lake Erie Sailors joined the town residents as they remembered the events of Sept. 11 during the Put-in-Bay Historical Weekend, Sept 9-11. Put-in-Bay is a small island in Lake Erie off the coast of Ohio.

“Our nation was jolted into action one decade ago by the actions of terrorists,” said Capt. William Johnson, the commanding officer of USS Lake Erie (CG 70) during his speech at the event. “Their goal was to weaken the United States. Instead, fueled by the desire for freedom and justice, they did the opposite; they strengthened us. We came together as one nation in a search to find and defeat those who struck the heart of America.”

During the memorial, Johnson spoke about the late Lake Erie plankowner and former executive officer, Capt. Gerald Deconto, who lost his life when American Airlines Flight 77 struck the Pentagon on Sept. 11. A plankowner is a person who was a crew member during their ship’s commissioning. Deconto was Lake Erie’s first executive officer and was present during the ship’s commissioning on July 24, 1993.

“To this day, we keep a plaque and photo in the executive officer’s stateroom to remember the sacrifice he made for our country,” Johnson said.

Johnson was also assigned to the Pentagon but was on leave in California during the attack.

“My wife received a phone call from my superiors asking if she had seen me. They didn’t know I



(From left) Operation Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Marcos Locero, Cryptologic Technician (Collection) 2nd Class (SW) Dustin Ueltschy, Fire Controlman 3rd Class (SW) Chris Cooke, Logistics Specialist 3rd Class (SW) Joseph Reboja and Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class (SW) Lance Easton, all assigned to the missile-guided cruiser USS Lake Erie (CG 70), lead the parade group through the town of Put-in-Bay.

was on leave because my leave papers were burnt along with the rest of my office,” Johnson said.

Johnson said he felt that he could easily have been there during the attack. Later, Johnson recounted a frustrating feeling about not being able to help out during the rescue and recovery effort after the attack.

“I felt guilty that I couldn’t be there to help, but it absolutely renewed my dedication toward defending this country, defending our people and our way of life,” Johnson said.

Put-in-Bay’s Mayor Judith Berry was also at the event, and she welcomed the Lake Erie Sailors to her town.

“This contingent is named after Lake Erie, so I feel there is that

special bond,” Berry said. “Our community loves having them, and just the representation of the Navy, any armed services here, especially at this 9/11 event is a special thing for us. We very much appreciate the fact that they were here and share their thoughts with us.”

Operations Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Marcos Locero, Cryptologic Technician (Collection) 2nd Class (SW) Dustin Ueltschy, Fire Controlman 3rd Class (SW) Chris Cooke, Logistics Specialist 3rd Class (SW) Joseph Reboja and Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class (SW) Lance Easton were part of Lake Erie’s honor guard team. As part of the event, they presented the colors during the singing of the national anthem and the recitation

of the pledge of allegiance.

Ueltschy, an Ohio resident, recounted his own experiences during the events of Sept. 11.

“I remember when it happened, I just got back home from having my senior pictures taken,” Ueltschy said. “I got my senior pictures taken for the yearbook. I went home really to just skip out of school. We were watching some TV with my mom. It was like a movie playing. It was so surreal, but I remember that day like it was yesterday,” he said.

Worldwide, the U.S. Navy commemorated 9/11 with more than 50 events planned in 13 states nationwide.

Since 9/11, the Navy supported efforts to keep America safe through forward presence, deter-

rence, ensuring maritime security and augmenting other services by providing Navy personnel to support the war effort on the ground.

According to Johnson, Lake Erie was on station shortly after Sept. 11, 2001 conducting strikes on terrorism in Afghanistan in support of carrier strike groups.

“There is now a wide acceptance for international cooperation when dealing with terrorism,” Johnson said. “Terrorism worldwide cannot be justified nor will it be tolerated. Countries have joined together to fight against this threat, and we have made significant progress.”

As of Sept. 7, 2011, a total of 8,293 individual augmentees, including 4,913 active duty and 3,380 Reserve Sailors supported overseas contingency operation.

USS Chung-Hoon holds 9/11 memorial service at sea

Story and photo by
Lt. j.g. Carly Adler

*USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93)
Public Affairs Officer*

USS CHUNG-HOON, AT SEA – Sailors aboard the guided-missile destroyer USS Chung-Hoon (DDG-93) marked the 10 year anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks with a memorial ceremony to honor those who lost their lives during the attacks as well as those who chose to serve their country in response to the attacks. The ceremony, held on the flight deck, was attended by the officers and crew of Chung-Hoon.

The observance consisted of passing of the colors, a reading of “Old Glory,” a 21-gun salute, and a speech by Cmdr. Scott Erb, commanding officer.

Erb called on his crew to remember the thousands of American lives lost in the attacks, the heroes and the war that continues.

“Today let us remember heroism, selflessness, determination, sacrifice and love. Remember not the actions of a few who sought to destroy us but the actions of many who unified against them,” Erb said.

The ceremony served not only to remember fallen comrades and citizens but



The crew of USS Chung-Hoon (DDG-93) conducts a 9/11 memorial ceremony at sea.

also to remind Sailors why they patrol the seas to combat terrorism.

At conclusion of the ceremony, a painted mural dedicated to Chung-Hoon Sailors

who have served as individual augmentees (IA) was unveiled in a passageway on

the main deck. The mural, titled “Wall of Heroes,” features an American flag and the names of Chung-Hoon Sailors who have served as IAs in support of missions resulting from the Sept. 11 attacks. Chung-Hoon currently has one Sailor, Gunner’s Mate 3rd Class Mathew Jones, serving on a one year IA assignment to Kuwait.

The USS Chung-Hoon is deployed in the South China Sea as part of the 2011 western Pacific deployment.

For more information about the USS Chung-Hoon, visit www.chung-hoon.navy.mil.

Naval Air Museum Barbers Point honors 9/11 heroes, celebrates naval aviation

Story and photo by
Jazzmin Williams

Contributing Writer

This year on Sept. 11 at Naval Air Museum Barbers Point, a multitude of emotions ran through the day: joy, pride, anguish, empathy, and most of all, hope. For although the open house at Barbers Point was mourning and remembering a terrible day 10 years past, it also celebrated 100 years of naval aviation by the United States.

Barbers Point celebrated 100 years of aviation by the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard by hosting a free open house the weekend of Sept. 10 and 11 and showcasing its rich history Sept. 11. There was also a special remembrance ceremony to honor those who served on that day 10 years ago.

“We are able to give the reverence to 9/11 as well as celebrate a monumental achievement,” said Brad Hayes, the executive director of the museum and a former Marine.

At the museum for more than 12 years, Hayes believes that the museum is a place that needs to be remembered, not only for the historical equipment and aircraft it offers firsthand, but also because of the legacy it presents.

“In 1944, President Roosevelt drove through here, through this very hangar,” Hayes said.

The museum was established in 1999, at the installation formerly known as Naval Air Station Barbers Point, with a mission to save aircraft that are historical to the station as well as other aircraft relevant to naval aviation history in the islands, according to their website. With nine aircraft currently on display, two in the museum, and two more in the process of being acquired, it is the only museum of its kind in the islands.

Visitors to the museum are even allowed to sit in the cockpit of aircraft. It is a nonprofit, with majority of staff being volunteers.

“It is overwhelmingly humbling to see the amount of people helping,” said Hayes. “I’m just blown away.”

However, there was also an undercurrent of remembrance of a day past, the day 10 years ago that changed the lives of everyone at the ceremony.

“I think we should remember [9/11], because people are always protesting,” said Pam Keanini, whose son was a member of the color guard. “They forget about the people that gave their lives so that they can protest.”

The ceremony started with a parade of the colors and was followed by an invocation by Cmdr. Terry Eddinger, Chaplain Corps, U.S. Navy. The two guest speakers were Hayes and Karl Steninger, a member of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD) and formerly a member of the New York Police Department (NYPD). Steninger was in the NYPD and serving in New York at the time of the attacks.

“9/11 wasn’t a monster movie, or a horror movie. It was a real day, with real people,” said Steninger.

“What the terrorists didn’t expect was the resilience of the American people,” Steninger said.

The solemn ceremony included the ringing of the bell along with two bagpipe players for those lost on 9/11 with Hawaii ties. For Ilma Anikow, a planner of the event and member of the marketing team for the museum, the memories are still fresh.

“I’m from New Jersey, so for me personally it’s hard,” Anikow said.

“I remember that day like it was yesterday. My sister was three blocks away at the time, and my brother was at the Pentagon. So for me it’s still chicken skin and



Members of the James Campbell High School Navy JROTC color guard participate in the Naval Air Museum Barbers Point special 10th anniversary 9-11 ceremony on Sept. 11 at Kalaeloa Airport.

crying,” Anikow said, with tears streaming down her cheeks.

Although he has been in HPD for seven years, Steninger still had reservations about attending the remembrance event.

“It’s a little creepy still on one end of it,” Steninger explained.

“The smell of 3,000 decomposing bodies blowing over to Queens, the screams, people grabbing my uniform and saying, ‘Where’s my wife,’ those are the things I don’t like to remember,” Steninger said.

Steeninger proclaimed that it was a beautiful ceremony, and that he never shed a tear from 9/11 until May of this year, when he heard of Osama Bin Laden’s death.

“That’s when reality set in,” Steninger said “That’s the day I cried.”

The ceremony ended with the reading of “My Name is Old Glory” written by retired Senior Master Sgt. Don S. Miller.

The rest of the day was filled with food vendors, and massive aircraft. Patrons sat in cockpits, circled the aircraft in awe, and listened to volunteers explaining the history of each one.

Navy balls planned for October

The Navy Officers’ Ball is only a month away, and it will celebrate the 236th anniversary of the United States Navy on Oct. 8 at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Tapa Ballroom. This year’s theme is “A Privilege to Serve.” The guest speaker will be Adm. Patrick M. Walsh, U.S. Pacific Fleet commander, and music will be provided by the Pacific Fleet Band.

Cost for the evening per person is \$65 for O3 and below, \$70 for O4 and O5 and Department of Defense civilians, and \$75 for O6-and-above and Senior

Executive Service.

Tickets are available now. The deadline for purchasing your tickets is Sept. 27. Group seating is still available. The earlier tickets are purchased, the better the opportunity for co-location of your group.

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Hilton Hawaiian Village at the kama’aina rate of \$157.

Child care will be available at the Naval Station Child Development Center (CDC) Pearl Harbor. The deadline for registration is Sept. 23. The cost is \$20 per

child. Contact Lt. Andrew Gates at 471-3740, or Lt. j.g. Michael Baugh at (Michael.h.baugh@navy.mil) or 474-8903.

The Navy Enlisted Birthday Ball will be held Oct. 14 at Hilton Hawaiian Village. Tickets are available for purchase by contacting Adrienne.allen@navy.mil or gary.jefferson1@navy.mil. Ticket prices are \$35 for E4 and below, \$45 for E5, \$55 for E6, and \$60 for E7 and above. For more information, call 473-4191.

Diverse Views



This month celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month. What person or aspect of Hispanic culture do you admire the most?



A1C Staci Brown
15th Aeromedical Dental Squadron

“George Lopez. Throughout life’s obstacles, he has managed to come out on top.”

Staff Sgt. Maria Jimenez
13th Air Force



“Hipolita Salavarrieta, who was a martyr of Hispanic revolution. She died for her ideas that all humans are equal.”



Master Sgt. David Manery
Det 3, 21 Space Operations Squadron

“Jose Sanchez, brother-in-law and lawyer who devotes all his time for the Hispanic community.”

Master Sgt. Joanne Vega
HQ PACAF/A4



“I admire the festive nature of the Hispanic culture.”



Operations Specialist Seaman Jinyah Wood
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam

“Teaching other races the Hispanic language.”

Operations Specialist Seaman Emmanuel Garcia
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam



“Music. Hector Lavoe and Willie Colon brought salsa to the United States.”



Gas Turbine Systems Technician (Mechanical) Fireman Maria Reid
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam

“Mexican food. Mexican food is everywhere. They are in popular demand and they keep opening up. Even in Hawaii you see a bunch of Mexican restaurants.”

(Provided by David D. Underwood Jr. and MC2 (SW) Mark Logico)

Want to see your command featured in Diverse Views? Got opinions to share?

Drop us a line at editor@hookelenews.com or karen.spangler@navy.mil

WWII surrender of Japan remembered



Official U.S. Navy photograph, now in the collections of the National Archives

Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz, U.S. Navy, signs the Instrument of Surrender as United States representative, on board USS Missouri (BB-63), Sept. 2, 1945, marking the formal surrender of Japan, ending World War II. Standing directly behind him are (from left) Gen. Douglas MacArthur, Adm. William F. Halsey and Rear Adm. Forrest Sherman.

HO'OKELE

PEARL HARBOR - HICKAM NEWS

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Port Royal’s VBSS team conducts integrated training in Arabian Gulf

Ensign Emma Mattson

USS Port Royal (CG 73)
Public Affairs

ARABIAN GULF – The visit, board, search and seizure (VBSS) team from guided-missile cruiser USS Port Royal (CG 73) recently participated in an integrated maritime interception operations (MIO) training event.

VBSS teams from Port Royal, U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Wrangell (WPB 1332) and Maritime Security Squadron (MSRON) 10 came together to conduct two days of joint training while underway in the Arabian Gulf.

This is the first time these units have trained together and, due to the success and the knowledge sharing fostered by the exercises, all units involved intend to coordinate future events throughout their deployment.

Participants practiced



detainee handling, defensive tactics and integrated tactical team movements as scenario complexity increased with each event to further develop team proficiency and cohesion.

“After the first few standard scenarios, an outsider looking in wouldn’t have been able to tell that we had never worked together,” said Lt. j.g. Michael Quaglino, one of Port Royal’s boarding officers.

The two-day event culminated in the boarding of the commercial service vessel, contracted to support

MSRON 10.

“Everything went smoothly. All participants were receptive to each other’s ideas, and it made for a very successful, productive event,” Quaglino said.

The integrated training was an important opportunity for Port Royal’s VBSS team. During the two days of training, the teams shared best practices and lessons learned with the other units to increase their knowledge and skills.

“Everyone shared a similar training foundation, although their skills are often employed in different environments,” Quaglino said. “Everyone brought their own expertise and experiences to the table.”

Port Royal is conducting maritime security operations and missions in support of operations Enduring Freedom and New Dawn while deployed to the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility.

U.S. and Japanese military personnel participate in sports day, picnic

Lt. j.g. Jacob Clark

Patrol Squadron 9

Patrol Squadron (VP) 9 military personnel and Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) VP DET 46 crew members participated in a command-sponsored sports day and picnic at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe (MCBH) in early August.

“The crews worked hard during the week, planning and executing a number of surface support and weapons training exercises,” said Cmdr. Craig Mattingly, VP-9 executive officer. “The down time is

well deserved.”

Officers and Sailors from both countries played on combined volleyball and softball teams as they gathered at Risley Field for a day of food and athletic competition.

"It was great to get out and enjoy team sports with our JMSDF allies and have the chance to socialize with them outside of a work environment," said Lt. j. g. Tommy Shannon, VP-9 naval flight officer.

During the visit, Cmdr. Rich Prest, VP-9 commanding officer, met with Cmdr. Hajime, JMSDF chief of flight, to discuss future teamwork and continued

partnership between U.S. and Japanese P-3C platforms.

JMSDF, a P-3C Orion aircraft detachment, was at MCBH to participate in an annual joint training exercise. Aircrews used the opportunity to hone anti-submarine warfare skills and develop mission proficiency prior to their deployment cycle.

“JMSDF’s visit was a valuable opportunity for Golden Eagle officers and Sailors to engage with their Japanese allies and learn more about each other’s cultures,” Mattingly added.

Intra harbor shuttle will revise operations beginning Oct. 1

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam intra harbor shuttle will revise operations beginning Oct. 1. The new schedule will no longer include transit to the inner harbor landings.

Transit will be between Lima (L, West Loch) and Charley (C, near Hospital Point) landings only.

The new schedule for the intra harbor shuttle will be:

Morning:

Depart L Landing - 6:25 a.m.
Depart C Landing - 6:40 a.m.
Depart L Landing - 6:55 a.m.
Depart C Landing - 7:10 a.m.

Afternoon:

Depart C Landing - 3:50 p.m.
Depart L Landing - 4:05 p.m.
Depart C Landing - 4:20 p.m.
Depart L Landing - 4:35 p.m.

‘Space available’ briefing planned for Sept. 27 at Hickam Theater

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam’s Air Mobility Command passenger terminal will host an informational “space available” brief from 3 to 4 p.m. Sept. 27 at the Hickam Theater to anyone interested in taking advantage of this benefit.

Eligibility, required documents, sign-up procedures, and finding available flights are some of the topics that will be covered. For more information, call Master Sgt. Gonzales at 448-9949.

GOT SPORTS

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Contact the Ho‘okele editor for guidelines and story/photo submission requirements.



Pearl Harbor-Hickam Highlights



Military service members and firefighters stand at ease during a 9/11 remembrance ceremony at the Federal Fire Department Hawaii Headquarters on Sept. 9. This ceremony honored the men and women of the New York Fire Department gave their lives during the attacks on 9/11.

U.S. Navy photo by MCSN Sean Furey

Capt. Douglas Waite, command chaplain for commander, Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, gives the invocation at the Federal Fire Department Headquarters 9/11 remembrance ceremony on Sept. 9. Waite offered his services at the Pentagon, as well as the trade centers after the attacks 10 years ago.

U.S. Navy photo by MCSN Sean Furey



(Left) Sailors and Honolulu firefighters line up at a 9/11 remembrance ceremony at Tamarind Park, Honolulu on Sept. 9.

Photo by Chris Aguinaldo

(Right and below) Sailors assigned to the U.S. Pacific Fleet Band perform a commemoration concert honoring the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks for the residents of Forest City Navy Housing at the Halsey Terrace Community Center on Sept. 11.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Robert Stirrup



(Above) Maj. Kirsten Aguilar takes the guidon from Col. Dann Carlson, commander, 647th Air Base Group, 13th Air Force, and deputy commander, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, as she assumes command of the 647th Force Support Squadron on Sept. 9. Lt. Col. Carey Eichhorst relinquished command.



(Above) Rear Adm. Eleanor Valentin conducts a director's call on the historic World War II Battleship Missouri Memorial. Valentin, commander of the Navy Medicine Support Command and director of the Medical Service Corps, was in Hawaii on an official visit.

Lake Erie Sailors celebrate Battle of Lake Erie in Put-in-Bay Ohio

Story and photo by
MC2 (SW) Mark Logico

Navy Region Hawaii

PUT-IN-BAY, Ohio — Sailors assigned to the guided-missile cruiser USS Lake Erie (CG 70), arrived at Put-in-Bay, Ohio on Sept. 10 to commemorate the 198th anniversary of the Battle of Lake Erie, Sept. 10.

Invited by the Perry group, a volunteer non-profit organization based at Put-in-Bay, the 10 Lake Erie Sailors joined the town residents and hundreds of visitors from Canada and surrounding U.S. states to celebrate Put-in-Bay Historical Weekend, from Sept 9 to 11. Put-in-Bay is a small island in Lake Erie off the coast of Ohio.

“It is an honor for me, and for the Sailors of USS Lake Erie that you see here, to be invited every year to celebrate and reflect on the events that took place in this historic harbor,” said Capt. William Johnson, the commanding officer of Lake Erie. “It was here, on this day so long ago, that a decisive battle was fought, that the tide of war was turned, and the United States Navy won the advantage over the British in the War of 1812, a defining moment in United States history.”

The Battle of Lake Erie was fought on Sept. 10, 1813. Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry led nine U.S. Navy ships that defeated and captured six British Royal Navy Ships, which later became historically known as the largest naval battle and a turning point in the War of 1812.

To kick off the festivities,



As the bay class icebreaking tug USCGC Neah Bay (WTGB-105) arrives at the exact location of the Battle of Lake Erie, Lt. Cmdr. Dennis Foutz, combat systems officer on USS Lake Erie, offers a flower in remembrance of those who gave their lives on that day.

Johnson, selected Sailors, local politicians, business leaders and special guests boarded the Coast Guard icebreaker USCGC Neah Bay (WTGB-105), to travel to the very spot the battle took place in Lake Erie.

Aboard the cutter, a small ceremony was conducted which included a wreath-laying service as Cmdr. Jeffery Plummer, chaplain, said a few words in honor of those who fought that day.

“As we lay a wreath, we remember the sacrifice, we remember the bravery of those who fought, of those

who died and those who were wounded,” Plummer said. “As we stand now, 198 years later, we don’t know the stories of the men who fought, died and were wounded that day, but the very fact that we are standing here today, says that they did not die in vain, that we stand here free.”

During the festivities, Lake Erie Sailors’ honor guard team participated in several events including a parade, multiple public engagements with local boy scouts and the public, and ceremonial flag detail activities.

“I feel honored,” said Logistics Specialist 3rd Class (SW) Joseph Reboja, who was part of the honor guard. “I enjoyed the hospitality of the people here.”

Reboja and some of his shipmates took time to help local children construct Lake Erie’s coat of arms during an arts and crafts activity at the Put-in-Bay Visitor’s Center.

Also during the festival, several National Park Service rangers and volunteers dressed up as 1812 military characters. Cryptologic Technician (Collection) 2nd Class (SW) Dustin Ueltschy and Hospital

Corpsman 3rd Class (SW) Lance Easton stood side-by-side with 1812 military re-enactors to give an audience a comparison with Sailors then and now.

Ueltschy explained that Sailors use iPads, personal computers and DVD players to entertain themselves aboard a ship as opposed to 1812 when they used playing cards. Ueltschy also told the audience that today’s Navy still uses the same techniques in navigation as they did back in the old days.

Johnson and his crew were thankful to the Perry Group for making it possible for the Lake Erie Sailors to come to Put-in-Bay to participate in the historical festival.

Kay Drake, the vice president of the Perry Group, said she believes it is important to continue to keep alive the accomplishments of Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry. In association with the National Parks Service, the Perry Group help raise funds to educate and improve the memorials dedicated to the accomplishments of Perry.

“I know that the reason we are part of the USA and not Canada is because of that battle,” Drake said. “We were so proud when the USS Lake Erie was named.”

Drake said it is important for Lake Erie Sailors to come to Put-in-Bay and learn about the history behind the name of the ship.

Today, a beautiful Greek Doric column, the Perry’s Victory and International Peace Memorial, stands at the central hub of the island. The 352-foot granite shaft, built in 1915, commemorates not only a naval battle, but a peace which has lasted for 198 years

My Favorite Photo...

Lt. Erik N. Molina took this recent photo of the waves washing ashore on the black sand Waipio Valley Beach on the Big Island.

Photo by Navy Lt. Erik N. Molina



Submitting

My favorite photo...

Do you enjoy taking pictures and have a favorite photo? Would you like to see it featured in Ho'okele? Here is your opportunity. Submissions must be from people affiliated with the military services, including active duty, family members, Reserve, retired and Department of Defense civilians, etc.

Your favorite photo can be just about anything, but keep in mind that it should be in good taste. We aren't looking for posed family shots or group shots. But if you have a photo that you think is interesting and

creative, here is your chance to see it published.

Photo submissions will be reviewed by Ho'okele editors who will determine if/when they will run in the newspaper. Along with your photo, please send a little bit of information about the photo, such as where it was taken or any interesting details. Also include the name of the photographer and contact information.

Please send your photos to editor@hookelenews.com and "cc" Karen Spangler, managing editor, at karen.spangler@navy.mil and Don Robbins, assistant editor, at drob-bins@hookelenews.com.

Brush up on your photography skills. Ready, set, shoot!

Installation-wide cleanup will take place on Sept. 22

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) will host an installation-wide cleanup from 8 to 11 a.m. Sept. 22.

All tenants are expected to participate. Commands can do their part by conducting general cleanup and maintenance of their respective areas and barracks. Commands should concentrate on high visibility areas such as installation entrances, window washing, parking areas, roadway borders, sidewalks and areas around the facilities that offer high return in improving the appearance of the installation.

Inspect all hazmat lockers, clean out all store rooms, coffee messes and common areas.

Commands are expected to clean assigned parking lots and barracks where their personnel reside.

Commands can submit beautification projects in

the vicinity of their respective facilities that are beyond their capability.

The JBPHH first lieutenant will accept requests for the use of landscaping equipment, personal protective equipment, debris removal and painting or cleaning supplies.

JBPHH requests command adopt high visibility areas such as installation roadways and shoreline. These areas will be maintained by the adopting command for future base-wide cleanups.

Commands that are unable to adopt areas can support by providing personnel for first lieutenant team projects. Team projects will concentrate on areas such as hazmat lockers, store rooms, coffee messes and common areas, as well as sign cleaning, storm drain labeling and fence maintenance.

For information, call Chief Builder James S. Davenport at 253-9283 or email james.s.davenport1@navy.mil

KHON (FOX) TV 2 Hawaii Navy News upcoming segments

Sept. 22 – Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station Pacific

Sept. 29 – Joint base energy initiatives

Oct. 6 – Medal of Honor

Oct. 13 – Navy Birthday

Oct. 20 – Fire Prevention Month

Oct. 27 – Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard

(The segments currently air between 6:20 and 6:30 a.m. each Thursday. Previous segments can be viewed at <http://www.bit.ly/KHONNavy>)

Got a story for KHON Hawaii Navy News?

Email editor@hookelenews.com or call Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs at 473-2875. Stories must have a Navy tie and be of interest to the general public.